



For Immediate Release

PERF Becomes a Partner in Retirement Planning

***Bridge to Retirement* illustrates Customer Commitment**

INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 1, 2005) – Assisting future retirees with planning their retirement is a major customer service initiative launched by the Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF).

In October, PERF mailed 250,000 educational brochures directly to non-retired members. The *Bridge to Retirement* spells out planning guidelines critical to the process of retiring. This publication represents the first time PERF has focused an educational effort on a single subject directed at its massive membership. The *Bridge* teaches people how to retire, including what steps to take and when to take them.

Angela Greene, Manager of Benefits and Payroll Administration for Ball State University, said, "Ball State employees have told me that the *Bridge to Retirement* establishes a standard timeline for the process of retiring from PERF. That knowledge just didn't exist previously."

This educational effort strives to help members make a seamless transition from a pay check to a PERF check.

"We have a responsibility to our members to assist them with planning for their retirement," said David Adams, Executive Director. "There are a number of important issues that future retirees need to consider prior to the actual retirement date. We are moving the PERF organization from one that processes checks to one that plans retirements."

PERF administers the two-part pension and defined contribution retirement benefits to a quarter of a million active and inactive members and more than 50,000 retirees throughout the state. Members and their employers fund these benefits. The State of Indiana is PERF's largest employer.

"PERF is raising the bar in terms of customer expectations with the *Bridge to Retirement* services," said Adams.

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